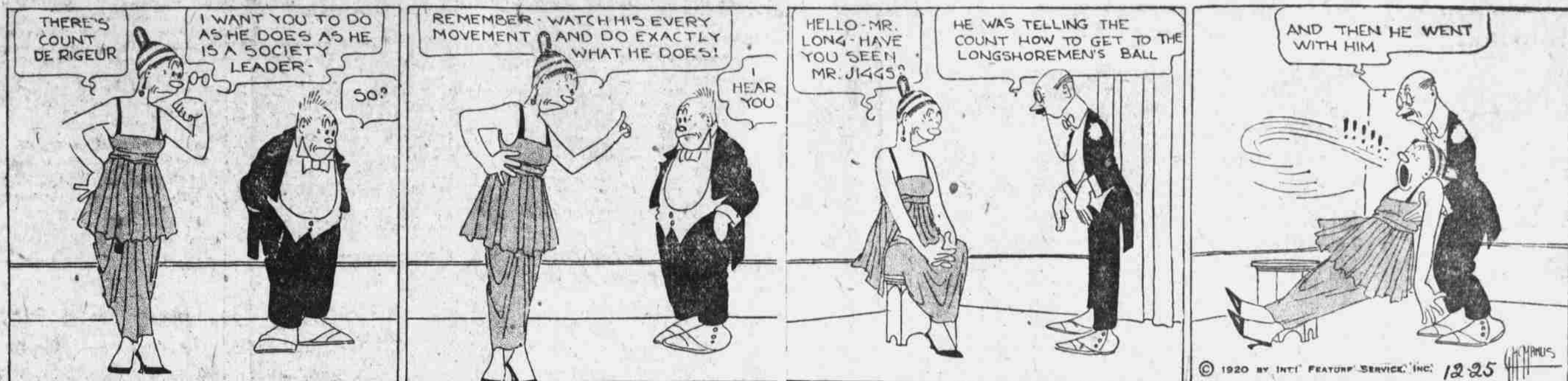


BRINGING UP FATHER—By George McManus

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PREXY MARTIN
BUSY ON '21
STAFF OF
EMPIRES

Bill Brennan and Dan Pefeninger Sure To Be Back, But Remainder of Corps an Uncertainty at This Stage.

BY BOB FIGUE.

Now that the smoke of battle from the annual fall meeting of the Southern league has lifted, President John D. Martin is busy getting his bearings and laying plans for the baseball year that will be here within a comparatively short time. First of all, the league president is leaping into the umpire proposition, since this was one problem that caused considerable complaint last season, and expects to be able to announce his complete staff of arbiters within a month.

One thing is certain: Bill Brennan, umpire-in-chief of the Southern, will gain by the change, with his fine eye and slick trousers and foreshadowing. Bill attended the recent meeting and has been one of the boys with the Southern league club owners, who figure the big umpire as one of the pillars of the organization. Bill is a wise baseball head, and knows every angle of the game, and is always ready with a solution of most any problem that comes up.

STRONG FOR LEAGUE.

Bill thinks the Southern league is the greatest minor organization in the country. He said that there is only one thing that would ever take him out of the Southern of his own volition, and that is the money, which would naturally be accompanied by bigger money.

"So long as I am in the minor leagues, I'll remain in the Southern," he said. "I am not here to make money. It is not only one of the best minor organizations in the country, but it is ideal to work in. It is getting better every year, and I believe that it isn't very far away when it will bloom into a Class AA league."

There's another of the old guard who will be present when the league meets next April. Dan Pefeninger, the oldest umpire in the league, has been in the service in the league, will again don the mask, shin guards and chest protector, and call 'em as he sees 'em.

Dan is without question the most popular and well-liked umpire among the players that the league has in its ranks. There has never been a time when the veteran armpit was ever the victim of any great amount of razzing or riding, for although he is human and makes his decisions sometimes, he has always been given credit for being absolutely conscientious and on the square.

Another thing the players like about old Dan is that he never carries a chip on his shoulder. He misses one and a player picks it up, but he never picks it up. Dan and make him give the player the worst of it next time. He forgets it, and the next time the player comes up Dan is ready to pick it up. He does not try to get revenge. He does not bear malice.

Pefeninger is getting older and grayer as the years pile up. The gray hairs are peeping out from under his worn blue cap in larger numbers than ever before, and at least it will be but a few more years when his veteran holder of the indicator will be obliged to forsake the game he loves so well, naturally with which he has been identified a quarter of a century.

Southern league fans and players alike are glad that the Ohio players are a good umpire and a fine fellow.

ABOUT THE OTHERS.

The remaining six arbiters who will compose President Martin's staff are an unknown quantity at present. The league head has a flock of applications on deck, and will have to carefully consider all of them before making his final decision. It is a foregone conclusion that the staff that served last season will not be on the job next year. Some of the members may be back, but it is needless to say any names at this time, but as the work of some of last year's handlers of the indicator was not so good, naturally they will not be signed again.

President Martin assures Southern league fans of a formidable staff of umpires for the 1921 campaign. He hopes to be able to announce the personnel of his corps of indicator handlers within a short time.

OHIO STATE ARRIVES.

PASADENA, Cal., Dec. 23.—The Ohio State football squad arrived yesterday for its game here with a away game at the University of California.

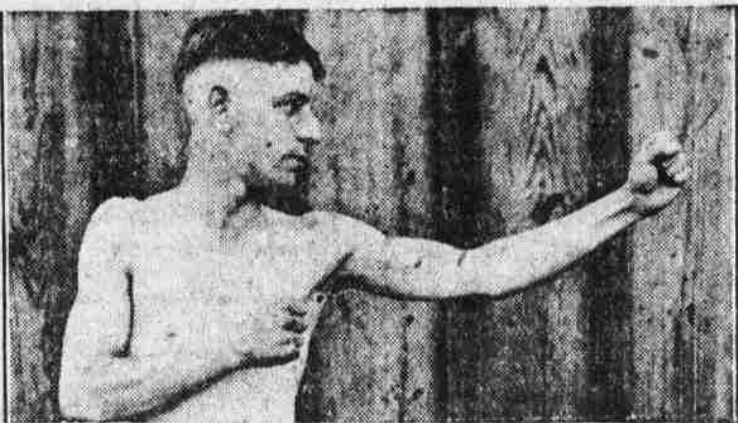
Football writers of Los Angeles and Pasadena newspapers commented on the fact that the Ohio players were much better than the Harvard team which defeated Oregon here last year. The Buckeyes are said to average about 175 pounds, while the Harvard players averaged more than 150.

AIRPLANES READY.

LONG BEACH, Cal., Dec. 23.—Sixteen airplanes and pilots are ready for the various events of the national winter air tournament which opens today and is to continue through Sunday and Monday. Officials of the Aero club of Southern California announced the light rain which fell yesterday would not interfere with the starting of the tournament.

If the 12-club National league goes through and Baltimore is the twelfth city of the new alliance, then Toronto will immediately apply for one of the berths vacated by the bolting three American clubs. Toronto thinks it could take the Boston franchise and show better returns than the Red Sox have done under Harry Frazee's ownership.

Still they come. The latest proposal for a new league is one to be known as the Central Texas. Towns proposed for membership include Stamford, Hamlin, Anson, Haskell, Segmour, Albany and Rule. None of them ever has boasted a club in a professional league.

YOUNG DEMPSEY READY
MEETS CHINK BANTAM

YOUNG JACK DEMPSEY.

Young Jack Dempsey, local heavyweight, will finish his training for his Monday night battle with George Lee, Pacific coast Chinese midweight, with a fast workout Sunday. Young Dempsey, although realizing he is meeting a high-class opponent, believes he will be able to take his measure, and is going into the fray confident that he will give the Oriental a lesson.

Lee is a full-blooded Chinaman, and is said to be one of the classic bantams in the game today. Although he was born of Chinese parents, Lee speaks English fluently. He is a native of Sacramento, Cal., and was educated in the public schools there. Before taking to the fight game as a means of livelihood, Lee was shipping clerk for one of the big department stores in San Francisco.

TRAP, ROD AND GUN

BY TOM MARSHALL.

He hailed from the north of Ireland. A wild Irishman who located in Fargo, N. D. He was loyal to his friends to the extreme limit; would fight at the top of the hill. Should one demand, he would attend to the matter himself. More anon of Jimmy Curran, one of the best shots and practical hunters in the Northwest. On one occasion he was out in pursuit of prairie chickens north of Fargo. A brace of pointer dogs were the pride of his life. Time and attention had been devoted to their education. Jim had them trained to the minute. Their devotion to Jimmy was in keeping with his affection for the dogs.

Fences were then scarce, and signs admonishing hunters to "keep off" of the hunting were scarce. Jim was out in the morning, saw a man coming across the prairie, astride an old nag, with gun across the pommel of his saddle, heading directly for him. Jim saw a man coming across the prairie, astride an old nag, with gun across the pommel of his saddle, heading directly for him. Jim saw a man coming across the prairie, astride an old nag, with gun across the pommel of his saddle, heading directly for him.

Jim had on many occasions entertained in the "squared arena" with satisfactory results. Before the "Norse" knew there was trouble really brewing, he was showered with uppers, straight armed jabs, with a knockout finish to the count. When he regained his feet, it was running.

In the interim, Jim's dogs had located birds and were on the point of a short distance away. This stock fisher passed, he took a shot at Jim's dogs. His accuracy was evinced by a series of yelps. This slightly irritated Jim's displeasure. He immediately took a shot at the fleeing form. His first barrel sent him well up in the air; the second (clouded with number six shot) was the reception committee when he hit the ground. Oh! Boy. The last shot was an accelerator. He stepped on her, fearing Jim had a repeater. He made good time, his course being plainly marked by following dust. Jim straddled the Norwegian's horse and rode over to his home, advising him that he was disposed to let the trouble drop, unless the "Norse" started something later. He would not be responsible for what would then happen—it would be awful. The dogs were gun shy from that day.

On a short route contract into "duck-dom." It was only a question of inserting plenty of lead, then adding more and pulling the trigger, trusting to Providence and advance guard of the lead, to deliver results. We paired off for the evening shoot. Graham and Peck selected a point near the lodge of Walter and Louey Hill, of Great Northern railroad fame. Curran and myself were shooting on Gordon Pass. We would see the results of every shot fired

Present Year Sets Pace
For All Others In Sports

Never Before Have So Many Classic Events Been Held in One Year—Baseball More Popular Than Ever.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—When a year in sport!

With the football season half over, this country is witnessing the last long gasp of the most remarkable sporting year in its history.

Events that have occurred on the diamond, on track and field, on the turf, on tennis courts and golf links, and on the water have made sport history of other years pale by comparison.

The fact that this is a presidential year and that the country is still in the midst of the reconstruction period following the world war has not detracted one iota from public interest in big sporting events. One after another such events have been staged amid scenes and under conditions that outshine anything in the past.

The homage paid to such stars of sport as Babe Ruth, Tris Speaker and his Cleveland Indians, Rogers Carpentier, Jack Dempsey, Man of War and others has been astonishing.

While it is impossible to begin to estimate correctly the number of millions who have witnessed sports throughout this great land of ours, or the millions of dollars that have been taken in at the box offices and turnstiles, it is altogether safe to say that in round, total figures the record in victory many things can be overlooked.

Baseball the Rage.

Baseball, the rage of the nation, enjoyed one of its best years. The world's series, the greatest of the year, and that with the cloud of the 1919 world's series scandal hanging over the game. But the Indians and Dodgers played the 1920 series on its merits, and the game itself is too big to be mortally hurt by the traitorous work of a few gamblers and a small group of weak-charactered players who listened to the voice of the tempter. The races in both major leagues were followed with keen interest by the fans. The final outcome was not known in either league until the winners and losers were practically under the shadow of the pennant pole. Likewise, the pennant races in minor leagues throughout the country were followed by the fans in the various sections with keenest interest. The minors had a great year.

Babe Ruth.

The one big individual feat in baseball was Babe Ruth's shattering of the world's home-run record with a grand total of 54 circuit clouts.

The race for the batting championship, won by George Sieler and Rogers Hornsby, of the rival St. Louis clubs, was another feature.

Man O' War.

In much the same manner as Ruth holds the center of the stage in the realm of baseball as an individual star, Man O' War, Samuel D. Riddle's great racing stallion, looms up as a shining comet of unequalled brilliance. The great three-year-old champion, after winning every classic in which he was entered, defeated Commander J. P. Ross, a great horse, Sir Barton, at Windsor, Can., on Columbus Day, in the greatest match race that has ever been run in this country.

Horse racing, both on the turf and in the harness division, enjoyed one of the greatest years in its history in America. Many thousands of racing fans have watched the big blue ribbon excepts of the year in the East, West, South and in Cuba.

Boxing Revival.

Boxing, although it had its real comeback last year and was revived to a noticeable degree through the winning of the world's championship by Jack Dempsey, has enjoyed a most wonderful year. The invasion of Jimmie Wolfe, the invasion of Georges Carpentier, the Dempsey-Carpentier fight, the high lights of the year in boxing up to this writing. The comeback of the game in New York state, with a

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hands of Joe Stecher, the big Nebraska farmer boy.

The football season, now just half finished, will add its bright page to the year of sport, and when the last big classic has been staged, there skins will have the satisfaction of knowing that he has done his bit.

TAD'S TID-BITS

Was there ever a guy as lonesome as our lightweight champion, Benny Leonard? Maybe you can think of someone, we can't. Just think of a little 135-pounder with no playmates. Never in the history of the lightweight division was a boy so far out of his class. Maybe Gans, near the close of his career, was lonesome, but he had Nelson coming. Here's Leonard without a boy in the world of his weight worthy of a battle with him.

We hear that Willie Jackson is thinking of taking on Benny. He's just thinking, that's all. They tried to get Jackson to fight Leonard for the Red Cross benefit here two years ago and Willie almost died with fright. We heard later he wouldn't agree to get into the ring with Benny unless the champion agreed not to get mad.

Benny did agree to hit easy and it was such a miserable six-round bout that the fans razed it from start to finish.

Do you think that Jackson has changed his mind in the meantime? What? Can't hear you.

Fans at the Jackson-Fitzsimmons thing the other night wondered if the pair were first-class lightweights.

Where would they have been five years ago when the boys we had then, such as K. O. Brown, Tommy Murphy, Bert Keyes, Ad Wolgast, Leach Cross and Tony Bender?

Echo answers—where?

Wrestling Popular.

The wrestling game, also, enjoyed one of its best years. The defeat of Earl Caddock for the world's heavyweight title at the



JOSH DEVORE.

Grand Rapids, Mich., fans will tell you Josh Devore, former big leaguer, is still starring in sports. For Josh led that city's team in the Central league for a pennant the past season. Josh played in addition to managing the outfit and batted the clip of apple at about a 420 clip. Which added to his popularity.

Josh broke into the pro game with the Cotton States league in 1906. During his period in the major league he broke into four world's series—with Pittsburgh, New York and Boston. Slipping out of the majors, he starred in the minors with Indianapolis and other clubs.

The Central league had a prosperous season and the four clubs included in the circuit staged a merry battle.

Frank Kelley, former trainer of the Brooklyn and Newark teams, and last season with Akron, is in a hospital at Newark slowly recovering from an operation. It will be some time before he is on his feet again.

A queer story comes from out of Montreal to the effect that Roger Bresnahan and Jean Dubuc are seeking backing there for purchase of a franchise in the International league. The inference would be that the pair expect to get out of Toledo.

DISMISS BORTON
AND BILL RUMLER

California Judge Says Throwing Ball Games Is Not Criminal Offense.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 23.—Conspiring to "throw" baseball games is not a criminal offense in California, according to a ruling of Judge Frank R. Willis, of the Los Angeles superior court yesterday, when he dismissed indictments charging W. Baker (Babe) Borton, former member of the Vernon club of the Pacific Coast Baseball league; W. C. Rumler and Carl V. Maggart, former San Lake players and Nathan Raymond, alleged gambler of Seattle, with having conspired to "throw" games during the 1919 season.

Judge Willis not only sustained demurrers filed by attorneys for Borton and Maggart, but held that defects in the indictments could not be cured by a resubmission of the matter to the Los Angeles county grand jury.

This was said to mean the end of the case, so far as any criminal prosecution was concerned, the dismissal of the charges against the four accused men.

Judge Willis said the players in signing contracts with the teams, had entered into an agreement to play baseball to the best of their ability. But he continued, admitting they had not done so, their act amounted only to a breach of a civil contract, which he held, was in no way "actionable as a criminal case."

Judge Willis declared that the action of the men, if they were guilty was reprehensible, but there was no remedy along the lines of criminal prosecution.

Read News Scimitar Wants.

We've Bottled Up
the Pirates of Business

The business world has its pirates, as unscrupulous as the marauders of the sea. They are the makers of imitations and substitutes for standard products. They have imitated the appearance of



but they have failed to imitate its deliciousness. They have imitated Coca-Cola's advertising, but the imitation does not ring true.

They have imitated the Coca-Cola bottle and label—just as far as the law would allow.

But they cannot imitate the new Coca-Cola bottle—it is patented.

Note the distinctive shape—the corrugations—the name Coca-Cola blown into the bottle. Fix the picture in your mind. It is your sure protection against imitations and substitutes.

In future, accept no bottled beverage as genuine Coca-Cola unless it comes in this bottle.

Drink Coca-Cola in Bottles

Bottled under the most sanitary conditions in sterilized bottles

Keep a case in your home—order from your dealer

Delicious and Refreshing

Demand the Genuine

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